ISSN 0041-7904

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS INFORMATION BULLETIN

Vol. 45, No. 46 November 17, 1986

Library of Congress Holds Major Exhibition On Childhood in America, 1900–1950

A major exhibition, "Childhood Choices: American Pastimes and Everyday Fantasies, 1900–1950," will open at the Library of Congress on Thursday, November 20. Glimpses of yesterday's childhood are re-created in this exhibition by depicting the broad locations where children made their early choices: "At Home"; in the "Backyard, Street, and Beyond"; and "Main Street." These divisions suggest the progressive independence of childhood while the display of personal possessions underscores the impact of childhood choices on later life. The opportunity of learning for oneself, of using available time for dreaming, reading, joining clubs, or enjoying hobbies, helped to shape the adults of today.

In the first half of the century, children between the ages of four and 12 could choose to compete in sports, listen to radio thrillers, meet in clubs, read books that inspired creativity and allowed their

(Continued on p. 379)

Also in This Issue . . .

Library issues compact disk 378

Exhibit features the book in India 378

Deacidification program update 378

Meetings and events around the Library 380

Library Produces Its First Compact Disk Recording Issued for Release

The Library of Congress has produced its first compact disk (CD) recording issued for release, "Our Musical Past, Vol. 2: Two Silent Film Scores." The new CD contains excerpts from two 1916 film scores—Jerome Kern's score for *Gloria's Romance* and Victor Herbert's score for *The Fall of a Nation.* The works are recorded digitally and feature Frederick Fennell conducting the MusicCrafters.

Although no print of either film is known to survive today, the music remains fresh and delightful. The film *The Birth of a Nation* (1915) had shown that music was extremely effective in heightening the power of film. But much of the score to this film was borrowed from the classics—such as "The Hall of the Mountain King" and "The Ride of the Valkyries." As a result, in 1916 several composers were vying for the honor of writing the first completely original score for an American motion picture.

For *Gloria's Romance,* a serial starring Billie Burke in a tale of love and society in Palm Beach, Jerome Kern wrote a nostalgic score for small orchestra, music which often suggests the "society music" which might have been heard at a Florida resort. For *The Fall of a Nation,* Victor Herbert called for an orchestra of about 40 players—all that could be fitted into the pit of a large movie theater. *The Fall of a Nation* was a blood-and-thunder film about the invasion of America by an unspecified European power; although some of the music suggests better known work by Victor Herbert, much of it reflects the grim subject matter of the film.

The price for the compact disk recording is $14.95; it is also available on cassette for $8.95. Fourth class mail is postpaid. Any other postal rate must be prepaid by the customer. To place an order, or receive information on discounts for dealers and radio stations, contact the Public Services Office, Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540.

The *Library of Congress Information Bulletin* is issued weekly by the Information Office of the Library of Congress and distributed free of charge to publicly supported libraries and research institutions, academic libraries, learned societies, and allied organizations in the United States.

Comparable institutions and organizations in other countries may arrange to receive the *Bulletin* on an exchange basis by applying in writing to the Library's Exchange and Gift Division. All other correspondence should be addressed to the LC *Information Bulletin,* Information Office, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540.

Bruce Tapper, Editor

New Library Exhibit Features The Book in India

The Library of Congress is presenting a small exhibition of noteworthy manuscripts and printed books from India in its collections, from October 17 through November 23, in the west corridor outside the Mumford Room on the sixth floor of the James Madison Memorial Building. The exhibit, "The Book in India," is part of the participation by the Library of Congress in the nationwide celebration of the Festival of India.

The book in India possesses a richness all its own. India is home to dozens of major languages and hundreds of minor ones belonging to eight language families, many widely disparate religions and sects, and vastly diverse cultural styles and levels of development. And Indian books display an unusual variety in scripts, formats, materials, ornamentation, and technology.

The Library of Congress is one of the world's most extensive repositories of printed books from the Indian subcontinent, with collections of contemporary publications from India unsurpassed in the world. This exhibition of a tiny sample of the Library's collections exemplifies the diversity and the accomplishments of the Indian book.

Examples of the books on display include a children's alphabet book in the Tamil language incised on palm leaves, an illustrated miniature manuscript of Hindu religious classics, diagrams for the canons of proportions of the human body in classical South Indian sculpture, a Koran copied out by the hand of a future Mughul emperor, another manuscript Koran translated into Hebrew, a manual illustrating wrestling positions, and a pattern book for decorating women's hands with henna.

Deacidification Program Update

The Library of Congress has contracted with Texas Alkyls, Inc., of Houston, Tex., to undertake engineering studies and to redesign a pilot book deacidification facility. The purpose of the pilot facility is to test and verify the design features of the chemical delivery system for the large-scale facility and to continue to refine process parameters by conducting a series of tests.

(Continued on p. 379)

STAFF NEWS

True Grit Trouper

Brenda Wesner of the Library's Congressional Research Service (CRS) is first a singer—a soprano with a three octave range—next an actress and costume designer ("Camelot"), box-office coordinator, house manager, producer ("Can-Can"), and director of a musical group.

A solid believer in community theater. She has been associated with theater arts in acting and singing roles or working in an administrative capacity ever since she graduated from the University of Oklahoma. She now works in research analysis as a congressional research administrator with the Inquiry Status and Information System (ISIS), and plans and coordinates enhancements for CRS, acting as liaison with the Library's Automated Systems Office.

Among her theatrical credits are roles as Muriel in "Plaza Suite"; as Mona in "Come Back to the Five and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean"; as Luann in "Luann Hampton Laverty Oberlander" from Preston Jones' "Texas Trilogy"; as Marian in "The Music Man"; as Nellie Forbush in "South Pacific" costarring with now U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia Joseph diGenova; and the most recent as Lilli/Kate in "Kiss Me Kate." Brenda has always gone after formidable roles even as far back as her fifth grade class at Charles Evans Elementary in Ardmore, Okla., at which she first realized that she wanted to be an actress. Prompted by her mother, Adaline, a former music major and dean of girls, young Brenda first publically performed singing the Stephen Foster classic "I Dream of Jeanie With the Light Brown Hair," accompanied by her mother. From that point on Brenda never wavered from her goal. In her senior year at Nathan Hale High School in Tulsa she was active in theater and then went on to Oklahoma University in Norman where she received her bachelor of fine arts and master of fine arts degrees. Her father, Howard, tried to encourage his daughter to become a civil engineer (his profession) because her grades, particularly in math, earned her constant mention on honor rolls and dean's lists. Instead, she followed her earliest instincts, starting to work in the Tulsa Little Theater immediately upon graduation.

A real trouper, Brenda exemplifies the idea of "the show must go on." During the rehearsals for "Kiss Me Kate" last spring her male lead accidentally dropped her at the close of Act I as he was carrying her off the stage. She landed very hard on the floor, hit her head, and badly bruised her elbow. Shortly after this incident, and one week before the show's opening, she slipped on the stage during the rehearsal of a fight scene, sailed across the stage, hitting her head and opening up a large gash above her eye. Rushed off to a hospital emergency room she received X-rays and nine stitches,

Brenda Wesner as Kate in "Kiss Me Kate," the Arlington Players. Photo ©Fran Kiley 1986

but got the assurance of her doctor that she would be healed enough to perform in the next week's performance. She did, and carried the show through to its successful conclusion.

In community theater there is no union involvement, and no pay. All box office receipts go to pay for the costs of running a theater, from costumes to sets. But the satisfaction is real for the unpaid actor. There is a sense of accomplishment and service to the community and pride in carrying on the traditions of the theater through presentation of polished productions which often win rave reviews. The public is well served for where else could one see "Amadeus" on the stage for as little as $7?

Brenda has received considerable recognition, the most recent in being nominated for the lead in a musical in 1986 ("Kiss Me Kate"), by the Alliance of Community Theaters. Always ambitious, she received a college scholarship and then as a senior took the top one-percent award and the Buffalo Mask for outstanding contribution to drama, a combination of theatrical and academic excellence, and was also an officer in Alpha Gamma Delta Sorority. And beyond her acting capabilities she has management and administrative skills. She is currently serving as past-president of the Board of Directors for the Arlington Players.

(Continued on next page)

Trouper *(Continued from previous page)*

As to her own taste in theater, Brenda remarked, "There are excellent roles in plays about the real world, but I prefer to perform in shows, especially musicals, that permit an audience to escape from the world for a couple of hours, and let them come out of the theater with joy in their hearts and smiles on their faces."

The stage is not her only avocation. Brenda's other interests and experiences include gardening, costume design, needlepoint, interior decorating, reading—especially biographies, history, mysteries, and espionage—and travel. Her travels have taken her to Europe, Egypt, Mexico, the Carribbean, and the American southwest. She also has compiled a genealogical history, charting the family names Wesner, Avery, and Ressigue back through the American settlers of 1630 and the French Hugenots, to Egbert, first king of the English (828–839).

Brenda Wesner is a resourceful and energetic person but theater will always be a major focus of her attention. Although she has taken on all the chores of stagecraft, she is ready to take on any challenge the future may hold—the tougher the better. Such enthusiasm is catching. —John Sullivan

The Library's Telecommunications Plans Are Discussed

Howard Kierzewski, senior communications engineer of the Automated Systems Office, provided an overview of telecommunications planning at the Library, at the September 14 program presented by the Online Users Group.

Mr. Kierzewski began by describing why telecommunications planning is now being done at the Library though it had not been in the past. Before February 1984, American Telephone and Telegraph Company (AT&T) and its subsidiary, the C&P Telephone Company—both regulated monopolies—had complete control over voice communications at the Library. They owned the telephones and the wires that ran in ducts under the floors of Library buildings and they provided all telecommunications planning. Computer terminals provided by the Automated Systems Office could not use AT&T wires and, thus, had to use different wires for the Library's data communications system.

In today's deregulated environment, communications common carriers have sold users the telephones and the phone wires. Users are now responsible for providing their own planning, analysis, and design of voice communications systems. The Library has the choice of designing such a system for itself or paying others to do it. Because there is no technical barrier to having only one communications system, it makes no sense to have separate voice and data communications systems. The renovation of the Jefferson and Adams buildings, moreover, combined with AT&T deregulation and the absence of technical reasons for separate voice and data communications systems provide a "unique opportunity to have one system and do it right," according to Mr. Kierzewski.

The wiring system envisioned for the Library would unite the Jefferson, Adams, and Madison buildings with one comprehensive grid designed to last 30 years and having the potential to provide a telecommunications outlet at each employee's desk. The grid will contain a twisted pair, copper-wire system suitable for voice service and for any of today's terminals and personal computers. The system now in use has separate wiring systems for voice and for data. The new system will also have two fiber optic strands that use light to transmit information and can support optical disk or other devices that send data at very high rates of speed. It will be first installed in the Jefferson and Adams buildings during the renovation and then be gradually incorporated in the Madison Building. In trying to anticipate future needs, the Library will use a fiber optic cable able to pass data at a rate some 40 times faster than required by today's optical disk.

The other half of the telecommunications system is the switching system. Currently the Library uses the telephone-company-provided CENTREX service. According to Mr. Kierzewski, a decision on whether to continue CENTREX or install a new system will be made soon. Although the decision will depend on needs and costs, Mr. Kierzewski expects the Library to use an integrated voice/data switching system to replace today's voice-only system. The new system is expected to be able to combine both voice and data transmission and perform all functions previously available only with separate devices—telephone, personal computer, hard-wired terminal.

Mr. Kierzewski anticipates an integrated voice/data switching system to be operational at the Library by next year, with the annexes and remote locations added to the system by 1989. High-performance networks capable of handling optical disks should be in operation by 1990. The ultimate goal is to have a transmission and switching system supporting ten to 15 interface standards, able to accommodate different kinds of equipment from multiple manufacturers.

Completion and implementation of the voice/data system is expected in about four years. The forecast for finishing wiring installation and operation is seven to ten years, depending on the pace of building renovation.

In the discussion that followed, plans were mentioned for security, centralized maintenance and repair, and

adaptability to meet needs of high-intensity use such as the Computer Catalog Center, as well as low-intensity use such as bookstack areas. Whether the system will include the Library's overseas offices is undecided; costs may be prohibitive.

Beacher Wiggins Becomes Assistant to Henriette D. Avram

Beacher Wiggins has been selected as assistant to Henriette D. Avram, assistant librarian for processing services. Mr. Wiggins has served for the past six years as the head of the English IV Section of the Descriptive Cataloging Division. During his 14-year career at the Library, Mr. Wiggins has earned numerous awards and commendations, including Meritorious Service Awards, Special Achievement Awards, Outstanding Performance Ratings, and several Quality Step Increases. He also has been active on behalf of the Library at the national professional level.

In his new position Mr. Wiggins will be working closely with the assistant librarian on national and international issues, automation issues, and networking concerns. His appointment was effective September 8.

Debra Lynn Newman Named Specialist in Afro-American History and Culture

Debra Lynn Newman has been named specialist in Afro-American History and Culture at the Library of Congress.

Dr. Newman served as black and women's history specialist at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) from April 1985 to October 1986. She was archivist, black history specialist, there from 1978 to 1985, and held archival positions working with black history records at NARA, 1972 to 1978.

Dr. Newman received her bachelor's and doctorate degrees in history from Howard University and her master's degree from Boston University. Her dissertation, completed in 1984, is titled "The Emergence of Liberian Women in the Nineteenth Century." For her most recent publication, *Black History, A Guide to Civilian Records in the National Archives* (NARA, 1984), she received a NARA citation (1984), the Society of American Archivists Coker Award (1985), and the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archivists Award (1985). In addition to several other NARA publications, she has published book reviews, document abstracts, and several articles relating of black women's history. Two of them are "Black Women in Pennsylvania in the Era of the American Revolution," which was published in the *Journal of Negro History* in 1976, and "They Left with the British—Black Women in the Evacuation of Philadelphia, 1778," published in *Pennsylvania Heritage* in 1978.

Dr. Newman will assist researchers in the use of the Library's valuable source materials in Afro-American history and culture in the Manuscript Division and will advise potential donors on possible additions to the collections.

Alan Jabbour Chosen as AFS President-Elect

Alan Jabbour, director of the American Folklife Center, was recently elected president-elect of the American Folklore Society. He will serve one year as president-elect, one year as president, and one year as past president, while functioning as a member of the society's executive board throughout the three-year term.

The American Folklore Society, founded in 1888, will be observing its centennial during Dr. Jabbour's presidency. The society has planned a number of special initiatives for the centennial period which will reflect upon its century of formal commitment to documenting and studying folklore and folklife in the United States and abroad.

Local Chapter of REFORMA Invites Library Staff Members

The Washington Metropolitan Chapter of REFORMA, the National Association to Promote Library Services to the Spanish Speaking, has invited Library staff members to the installation of its newly elected officers and a talk by Everette Larson of the Hispanic Division.

This event will take place on Wednesday, November 19, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., at the Martin Luther King Memorial Library, 901 G St., N.W., Room A-2.

The elected officers are: president—Alexander Tscherny (Microform Reading Room, Library of Congress); vice president—David Nieto (Copyright Office, Library of Congress); secretary-historian—Consuelo Newman (former director, Latin American Book Fair); and treasurer—Thomas L. Welch (director, Columbus Library, Organization of American States.)

The guest speaker will be Everette Larson, reference librarian in the Hispanic Division of the Library of Congress. Dr. Larson will speak on the topic, "Latin American Literature for Old and New Immigrants." Dr. Larson earned his B.S. in Arabic language at

(Continued on next page)

REFORMA *(Continued from previous page)*
Georgetown University, his M.A. in Spanish literature and his Ph.D. in Romance Semitic studies both at Catholic University. He also has taught English and linguistics at the University of Valladolid in Spain as a Fulbright lecturer. At the Library of Congress he has worked as a librarian first in the Near Eastern and African Law Division and now in the Hispanic Division. He is the author of numerous articles and bibliographies.

REFORMA is committed to the improvement of the full spectrum of library and information services for the approximately 15 million Hispanics in the United States.

Established in 1971, National REFORMA has actively sought to promote the development of library collections to include Spanish-language and Hispanic-oriented materials; the recruitment of more bilingual and bicultural library professionals and support staff; the development of library services and programs which meet the needs of the Hispanic community; the establishment of a national information and support network among individuals who share its goals; the education of the U.S. Hispanic population about the availability and types of library services; and efforts to preserve existing library resource centers serving the interest of Hispanics.

For further information please contact Shelley Miller at (202) 287-9481.

Retired Staff Member Frances W. Fahy Dies

The *Information Bulletin* has learned of the death of Frances W. Fahy, a former staff member. Mrs. Fahy died September 13, 1986, at Georgetown University Hospital in Washington, D.C.

During World War II, Mrs. Fahy worked for the War Department, and later the State Department, where she attended planning meetings for the formation of the United Nations at the Dumbarton Oaks Conference.

Mrs. Fahy came to the Library in 1949 as a searcher in the former Card Division. She later worked as a secretary in the General Reference and Bibliography Division and in the Poetry Office. In 1960, she was promoted to mail analysis clerk in the Office of the Secretary, now the Central Services Division. She retired October 29, 1965.

She is fondly remembered by her former coworkers as a gentle, pleasant person.

Mrs. Fahy is survived by her husband, Julian Fahy, of Washington, D.C.

Library of Congress First Annual Smokeout

All staff members who smoke and wish to quit or who have friends who do are invited to join the Great American Smokeout Kick-Off Program in the Mary Pickford Theater, Thursday, November 20, from 10 to 11 a.m.

For further information, contact the Health Services Office, ext. 78115.

Personnel Changes

Appointments: Toni Harris, computer assistant, GS-1, Com Serv; Eva C. Preiss, library technician, GS-7, Ser Rec; JoAnn Browning Seeley, research analyst, GS-9, FRD; Thomas E. Smith, supervisory librarian, GS-12, Loan; Corliss A. Togans, contracts specialist, GS-12, P&S.

Temporary Appointments: Kay Brodney, subject cataloger, GS-12, Subj Cat; Joseph Brown, Jr., deck attendant, GS-3, Col Mgmt; Avis F. Butler, deck attendant, GS-3, Col Mgmt; Derrick B. Harris, library technician, GS-5, G&M.

Promotions: Fehl Cannon, cataloging editor, GS-9, CIP; Theresa Ellenwood, cataloging editor, GS-9, CIP; Allen S. Johns, library technician, GS-5, Ser Rec; Russell R. Ross, unit supervisor, GS-13, FRD; Andrea M. Savada, unit supervisor, GS-13, FRD; Ann D. Sullivan, librarian, GS-9, Subj Cat.

Resignations: Aline Q. Council, MARC ED; Douglas N. Cruickshank, FRD; Lynn Ann Griffith, FRD; Frank J. LaScala, FRD; Dorothy S. Lee, AFC; Douglas C. Makeig, FRD; Kathleen C. McDonough, CRS ARS; Gilbert J. Sharp, Jr., M/B/RS; Rosemary Y. Wood, CRS; George C. Young, Pers R&P.

Deacidification *(Continued from p. 378)*

The Library's large-scale facility will be built at Fort Detrick in Frederick, Md., and is planned to deacidify up to 1,000,000 volumes per year from the Library's general and law collections. The process was developed and patented by the Library to arrest paper degradation and increase the life of library materials by a factor of three to five times. Based on gas phase impregnation with diethyl zinc (DEZ), the process neutralizes the paper's acidity and leaves a residue of zinc oxide and zinc carbonate that protects paper from further acid-induced loss of strength.

Texas Alkyls, the prime contractor for the Library's pilot facility, produces organometallic compounds such as aluminum, magnesium, and zinc alkyls used primarily as catalysts in the production of polymers, a base material of plastics. The use of organometallic compounds is on the increase with new applications in the semiconductor and ceramics industries. The company has extensive experience in the safe handling of these compounds (including diethyl zinc, the chemical that the Library will use to neutralize acids in book paper). Texas Alkyls will provide space and technical support for the pilot facility as well as operate it. S&B Engineers and Constructors, Inc., a subcontractor based in Houston, Tex., will design and build the facility. S&B is one of the nation's largest independent engineering and construction firms concentrating on projects for the chemical processing industry.

In anticipation of the construction of the large-scale plant, the test program for the pilot plant includes several major tasks. First, the Library requires assurance that the newly designed pilot facility with redesigned components can be run successfully in a routine manner. Second, specific decisions regarding plant design parameters will be made by conducting a series of scheduled test runs. For example, testing will determine how to adjust the rate of DEZ fed into the chamber to minimize loss of excess DEZ in recycle. As the testing program proceeds, more emphasis will be put on computer monitoring to record and control the treatment process.

Start-up of the pilot facility is projected for October 1987. Following successful operation, the Library will contract for scaling up the design of the chemical delivery system for the large-scale facility and incorporate this design into the contract to be let by the Army Corps of Engineers that includes the building and the entire chemical treatment plant. The Library expects to begin construction of the large-scale facility in mid-1988, start-up of the facility in late 1989, and regular operation by the middle of 1990.

Future developments of the Library's mass book deacidification program will be reported and discussed on a regular basis in subsequent DEZ update articles.

Childhood *(Continued from p. 377)*

imagination to run full force. Influences on later life could be implied in the relationship between earning money and materialism, idling and leisure time, reading and education. To be successful, self-sufficient, and imaginative was part of the American ideal. Starting at home where the first choices in books and music were often made under parental supervision, the next location offering opportunities in clubs and sports was backyard and beyond, while "main street" was the final place where choices multiplied from backyard imagination to commercial come-ons.

Part One of the exhibit permits the viewer to see the decisions requiring one or two children as participants that began at home or indoors with adults not too far away. Opportunities to choose what to do included not only a child's personal possessions but the ideas and influences in friends' homes, some of which represent different ethnic groups and geographic regions. For the most part, the average child spent time cultivating interests and friends, making discoveries by reading, enjoying or playing music, keeping diaries and autograph and scrap books, listening to the radio, and creating things with Erector sets, paint sets, or puzzles.

Examples of exhibit items in Part One include full serial radio shows aired from the 1930s, such as "Sky King," "The Lone Ranger," and "Jack Armstrong"; a 1930s doll house with period furniture; a Daisy air rifle and Buck Rogers ray gun; an opera manuscript composed by Aaron Copland when he was age 11; and a six-foot facsimile from an original pop-up book showing Buck Rogers fighting a gigantic monster from outer space.

Being part of a group, club, or gang was a choice that inevitably led children outdoors, as visitors will see in Part Two of the exhibit: "Backyard, Street, and Beyond." The chance to get away from parents or bothersome siblings is represented by private places like tree houses, places for dreaming, pretending, and reflecting. A replica of such a tree house sits in the center of the exhibition and rises the full two levels of the Madison Gallery and houses the special curiosities that children gathered and often kept in treasure chests disguised as cigar boxes or tin cans. With this new-found freedom the child was afforded an opportunity to become a champion, whether it be jumping rope, playing hopscotch, playing marbles, or performing magic tricks with cards and coins. Playing make-believe and dressing up as movie stars or fantasy creatures were the basis of early on-stage theatrics. A child also could have joined a baseball team or played any sport or had an opportunity to become a scout or campfire girl to prepare for the unknown.

(Continued on p. 380)

Meetings and Events Around the Library

Monday, November 24

☐ Symposium in connection with the 50th anniversary of the BBC. Call (202) 287-5677 for information and reservations.

☐ Poetry reading by Derek Walcott. Coolidge Auditorium, 8 p.m.

Tuesday, November 25

☐ "League of Nations Publications at the Library of Congress," Robert Schaaf, Serial and Government Publications Division. Special Interest Group on American Studies/Special Collections, LC Professional Association. Room LM 642, 12:10 p.m. **For members and staff.**

Tuesday, December 2

☐ "National Programs at the Library of Congress," Ruth Ann Stewart, associate librarian for national programs, Library of Congress. Special Interest Group on Library Science. LC Professional Association. Room LM 642, 12:30 p.m. **For members and staff.**

Friday, December 5

☐ Chamber music concert with Julius Baker, flute; Lisa Emmenheiser, piano. Coolidge Auditorium, 8 p.m.

Events are open to the public unless otherwise specified.

Childhood *(Continued from p. 379)*

Part Three of the exhibition begins with consumer choices on "main street" and stretches to almost every avenue of a child's life. It depicts the greatest temptations for growing children with a collection of items from specialty shops such as drug stores, five-and-tens, and hobby shops. Saturdays on main street were scheduled invasions of children either in small groups or in pairs. Being with friends added to the excitement of going to the movies, munching pop corn, laughing out loud at cartoons, or screaming for the good guys in the serials or main feature. Then stopping by the drug store for a malt, cola, or other sweet was an opportunity to see the latest comic books. Favorite comics like "Archie" and "Superman" sold quickly. Visiting a model shop or hobby store was routine for children with a burning desire to make something that looked as perfect and powerful as the advertisement pictures of airplanes and cars.

Businessmen, then as now, capitalized on childhood choices, the preferences for fantasies learned from books, radio, movies, and advertisements. Manufacturers created ways for children to spend a dime and the more unusual and bizarre the sales pitch, the stronger the temptation became to try something new. Food, fads, movies, and anything with a price tag presented an opportunity for children to make a choice, to test the percepts of value and quality, and to learn the lesson of fraud and hype.

Items on display in Part Three include the "Archie," "Bugs Bunny," and "Superman" comic books; model airplane kits in their original packaging; and many advertisements for toys and food directed specifically at children's tastes and desires.

The exhibit will run through May 31, 1987, in the Madison Gallery, first floor, James Madison Memorial Building, 101 Independence Avenue, S.E., Washington, DC 20540.

ISSN 0041-7904 *Key title:* Library of Congress information bulletin